

OUTGOING MESSAGE

COMINT

CHANNELS

SIGNAL CENTER USE ONLY									
AGE	COI	ACP	TOG	TPE	MRO	TRI	PAGE OF PAGES		
SCM	0	0	0	0	0	0			
CLASSIFICATION									
SECRET NFB									
MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR									
DATE-TIME GROUP									
CITE									
MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER									

CIA/OEI

/WHIZZWH

748123

CIA/HSS

SOURCE REF:

SENSITIVE

1		4		7		10	
2		5		8		11	
3		6		9		12	

TO: IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE//SITUATION ROOM FOR [REDACTED] 25X1A

WARNING NOTICE SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED

ITEM NO: BH-5

DATE: 23 JAN 74

SUBJECT: NO SOVIET WARSHIPS INVOLVED IN PARACELS SKIRMISH

REF : OSR MORNING BRIEFING, 23 JAN 74, SECRET NFB

ACCORDING TO AN ARTICLE IN TODAY'S WASHINGTON POST, SOURCES IN THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE NAVY CLAIM THAT THREE SOVIET WARSHIPS LINGERED NEAR THE PARACEL ISLANDS FOR SEVERAL DAYS BEFORE LAST WEEKEND'S FIGHTING BETWEEN CHINESE AND SOUTH VIETNAMESE FORCES. IN FACT, NO SOVIET WARSHIPS HAVE BEEN NEAR THE PARACELS SINCE LAST NOVEMBER WHEN A CRUISER, A DESTROYER, AND THREE SUBMARINES PASSED THROUGH THE SOUTH CHINA SEA ON THEIR WAY TO THE INDIAN OCEAN. THE SOVIET NAVY HAS SHOWN A SINGULAR LACK OF CONCERN ABOUT THE PARACELS AFFAIR: THE SOVIET INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION SHIP ON STATION IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA IS KEEPING WATCH ON THE US NAVAL BASE AT SUBIC BAY IN THE PHILIPPINES, RATHER THAN ON THE PROCEEDINGS IN THE PARACELS. E-2 IMPDET.

DATE: 23 JAN 74
ORIG: [REDACTED] 25X1A
UNIT: CTA OPERATIONS CTR
EXT: 93401

25X1A

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